Leicester, Mass^tts, Feb. 20. 1859.

My dear friend Webb,

I feel as if you would regard me as almost impardonably negligent in regard to writing. But I have been so much engaged, & so variously too, since I received your last, that I really have seemed to have no time to re-examine my accounts, & give you the answer you ask for in your last. But now I have attended to it, and will delay no longer.

In the first place I acknowledge yours of Dec 17.th which came to hand in due time, enclosing your acc^t. for the year 1858; and, copying below it, my account with you for the same year, and which you had just received. There seems to you son, you say, a difficulty in understanding how I make myself your debtor for $31.96 – that "he understands why $16. are due, for the Advocate, but the remaining $15.96, he cannot account for."

At your request, and to satisfy you, I have re-examined all my accounts with you for 2 years back, and, tho' I confess myself no expert at accounts, & am not a regular "book-keeper", yet I am persuaded of the exact correctness of my accounts. I should be indeed glad to find I was owing you but $16. in place of $31.96, but don't see how I can honestly alter the figures. Here they are –

		$
On the 26th Jan. 1858,	I was owing you a balance from my previous acc^t. of	5.00
" " "	I received from you a draft for £33.5.1, equal to,	161.84
" 26th Nov. "	I added, for Advocate Subscrip^ns. & sales....	16.00
		$182.84

Out of the above, I paid –

	To R.F. Wallcut, for sundry Liberators		83.12
"	"	" Mrs. Turner's Lib. for 1858	4.80
Feb. 1'58.	"	S.H. Gay, " sundry Standards	36.00
" 4.	"	F. Jackson, " Maria Waring donation £4.	19.20
" 4.	"	Bur Bazaar acc^t. a bal^ce to its credit for sundry British donations, first deducting certain expenses of yours	2.60
May 4.	"	W.S. Bailey for^m. Mrs. Jack, $5. – Postage, 6cts	5.06
			150.88
		Showing me indebted to you – – –	31.96
			$182.84

P.S. Please investigate, you and your son, and tell me where the flaw be, if any.

– My only misgiving is as to my way of charging the donations then made to the Bazaar. They amounted to £4.5.0, or $20.40; and I called your expenses $17.80, tho' I do not now exactly see how I made them so much. I hope I have done you no wrong.

You will, we know, be delighted to see how successful Mrs. Chapman's financial efforts was. The gross receipts amount to over $6000 — the expenses will not exceed $350., unless she should print her brief Report and the Lists of Acknowledgements in a little pamphlet (as I think she should), and that would not add much to the present total. There will be some $5700. net to be paid over, which is $1500. better than the best Bazaar you I have any knowledge of. I presume you have had my letter to E. Wigham, of a fortnight since, pass thro' your hands ere this. I desired you to read it, if you pleased, before forwarding it to her. That gave the general result, and a ~~meg~~ meagre Sketch of the "Festival". Every body is surprised at the very handsome sum collected, in comparison with the Bazaar proceeds. For myself, I can honestly say that I believe I have never doubted, or expressed a doubt, that Mrs. C. wd. be able to collect a very handsome sum, perhaps equal to the full Bazaar average, — I have never allowed myself to expect more than that, — and my want of unison with her movement did not arise from the mere abandonment of the Bazaar (tho' I was by no means without my fears on that point), but, from the very first, & equally now, to the manner in which it was put an end to. But there is no use, nor sense, in keeping alive any feeling of difference on that ground, and I feel sure that all our ladies will cordially overlook any seeming slight to themselves, now that the recent operation has proved so superior to the old one, as a financial instrumentality. Indeed I know that some of the heartiest and hardest workers in the late "Festival" were ladies who had felt quite wounded by good Mrs. C.'s apparent indifference to their opinions and views. But let it all rest, & be among the things that were. — The "Philadelphia Fair" ladies are now contemplating the taking of the name of the Boston Fair, viz. the "National A. S. Fair or Bazaar", and have written to ask if there be any objection here, and I understand have been informed there is none.

It was a great pity that the foreign contributions nearly all came too late – to Phila – for their recent Fair, But the goods will be turned to good account yet, I dare say sure. – There will not be a total abandonment, either, of the smaller, local Fairs, so that there will yet be an opportunity for those to contribute in this way, who can in no other. –

In your last you say – "Yesterday I heard of my Son Richard's safe arrival in Australia, after 79 days passage." Was not that quick? only a little over 2½ months. As I believe I told you, in a few hurried lines sent with Miss Wigham's letter, My oldest son had just set forth on an East India Voyage, in a fine ship called the "Ceylon" and bound first to the island of Ceylon, – thence probably to Sumatra, – and to China afterwards, I presume. It was a very sudden move indeed, but one he has long desired, as the friends knew who generously gave him the opportunity. How rejoiced we shall be to hear of his safe arrival; they are expecting for him a passage of not less than 110 to 120 days, to Ceylon. Does your son go out, with a view of establishing himself there? You and I ~~will~~ have now a new bond of sympathy. An older son of yours has been to Australia, I believe? Is it not the one who is now with you in business?

Will it not surprise you to learn that Anne Weston is about immediately to embark for England? She is to sail from New York, I hear, in the ship which leaves on the 2d of March, the week succeeding that of the departure of this letter. She has been invited by her Uncle in London (Mr. Joshua Bates) to spend some time with them; and as she ~~has~~ was very little with them, when abroad before, she decides to go now. They have recently had more unfavorable accounts of Lucia's health.

We are greatly pleased to hear of Sarah Remond's successful debut in Liverpool; and I am particularly glad that Mr. Channing took so active & friendly a part in the matter. – My Cousin S. J. M. writes, that Mr. Steinthal told him there was never any ground for the feeling entertained by some of the English & Amn. abolitionists, that Mr.

Channing had cooled towards the cause, & lost sympathy with our movement. I have very great respect for Mr. Steinthal's judgment, and I am so glad that his experience with my old friend and classmate Channing has been so decidedly favourable but he must remember that for many, many, yea Mr. Channing took no part with us, in private nor in public, (as he had done previously, and with much earnestness,) and that when we did see him acting, in England, it was in company with Frederick Douglass & Julia Griffiths & Russell Carpenter, &c. Now we all know that Wm. Channing never could stoop to so base an act as change our movements with being an infidel one, and designing to overthrow the Christian Church, &c. No one ever suspected him of harboring such a thought. But to those who did not know him, nor know of his long association with some of us, that public approving co-action with the agents of the man who had so villainously & meanly lied about us, in order to gratify a personal spite, and turn money into his own coffers, had a very suspicious look – an appearance which told against us, to exactly the same degree that it favoured Douglass & Co. – I had a conversation with W.H.C. (this is wholly between us, as the very few to whom you show all we have to say) on this very point, when he was here last September. He seemed greatly surprised, and as if the thing had never before appeared to him in that light. And he gave me the warmest assurances, & farewell messages to all our friends, that his heart was cordial and true to our common cause, and to us, as ever.

S. J. M. had been to see George Thompson in London, and wrote to Garrison an exceedingly interesting account of his visit. He found G.T. very much altered, walking about a little, but still quite helpless as to his hands. He is very poor indeed, – the Merchants, in whose employ he went to India, having (as he states) refused to pay him some £90., due to him, because he had left India. He left, because his physicians told him it was the only chance of recovery, – and meaning to return again, when better. He is indeed quite destitute – and the Boston friends are now engaged in making up a purse for him.

MS 18.6.17.P.30

I have read the Advocate for February with very great pleasure. Please tell me who Mr. Stephenson is, who writes about the League. I liked his letter, and heartily wished it were possible to form a strong and effective A.S. League. You doubtless remember that this was tried, some 15 years ago. I recollect becoming a member of it, and making small subscription at the time. Mr. Estlin, I think, took some part in its formation; but he had never much faith in its value, or rather in its success. He did not very highly appreciate Geo. Thompson's labours in the cause, – and it was G. T., if I rightly remember, who was mainly active in efforts to form the League. – I do not doubt that the considerations, which you state are pretty conclusive against the probable success of such a measure, at the present time. Yet, I cannot but remember how much A. S. work has been done in G. Britain in that 15 years – what an impulse has been given to the cause, the world over – and I confess to feeling a strong desire that some living association might spring up, to take the place which the B. & F. Society ought to fill, but does not, and never will. A League, or Association, with the Earl of Carlisle at its head, and with both men and women on its Committee – Yourself, Armistead, Jos. Lupton, the Patons, the Wighams, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Whitelegge, Prof. Nichol and wife, Mary Estlin, Mr. Stephens, Philip Carpenter, Steinthal, W. P. Powell, Francis Bishop, – to which add all the orthodox men I don't know, who are true to the principle, and a very vigorous Committee might be had. Would not E. Matthews lead up a good many of his Baptist brethren? – And I have omitted many – such as Thomas Sturge, & Edward Baines, and F. W. Chesson, & several in Ireland. – These are all, or nearly all, Dissenters, I suppose, excepting the Earl. The thing looks to me worth trying. If it did no other good, it would make it needful for many persons to show their colors.

I think with you that it looks bad that the Report of the Leeds Society makes no mention whatever of the Am. A. S. Society. It was not accidental, of course. It

is a poor policy, to court numbers or support
suppressing one's honest feeling, or withholding an
just testimony or tribute.

We have so long known your sister as Marie
Waring, that it will be quite difficult to get used
her new name.

I think I shall ask you to send me fewe
copies of the Advocate than you do. Five or six co
will supply me. You usually send 8 or 9. — The extra
copies add to your postage, & ours, and I do not se
transient copies. I think 5 will supply me.

I am, with sincere respect, yours
Sam'l May Jr.

Wallcut grows thick the English Liberator subscribers are so backward. Last year, the payment was $88.

Anne Weston told me to-day that she recently received
a note from you. Her eyes are so weak, that she ca
read but a very little, & scarce writes at all. —

As you may like to see how our account
stands (according to my books) at the present tim
I give you the following informal statement:

S. M. Jr. Dr.

1858, Decr. 1.	Bal. ce fr. old acc^t. — due R. D. W. —	31.9
1859. Feb. 17.	Rec^d. of J. W. Higginson, for 5 English Annuals gratis	1.2
" 18.	" of F. Jackson*, Treas^r. the amount of R. D. Webb's Expts., as charged me in his acc^t. of Dec. last, on acc^t. am^t. Soc^y	19.2
		$ 52.3

* and Jackson charges these in his Treasurer's books as legitimate expenses, of course, of the Soc^y.

S. M. Jr. Cr.

Dec. 1. '58.	Rutland Convention pamphlet —	.3
Feb. 17. '59.	pd sundry Standard subscriptions	21.1
" 18. "	pd " Liberator do	31.1
		$ 52.6

And your account says you are owing me 19/6, or a little over $4.50.